

BMP 040 - Discharge Wash Water to a Sanitary Sewer



Description of Potential Pollutant and Source: Wash water from vehicle, equipment, and floor cleaning activities often contains such as grease, oil, and gasoline which can be exposed to storm water. Wash water must not be discharged to the storm drain.

Description of BMP: Wash water will be discharged to a sanitary sewer to ensure that it does not enter a storm drain. (See BMP 041, "Wash Equipment and Vehicles in Designated Areas.") Wash water from mopping floors will also be discharged to the sanitary sewer.

Application Guidance: All wash water from vehicle and equipment cleaning activities will be discharged to a sanitary sewer. In areas where wash water cannot be discharged to a sanitary sewer, wash water will be collected in a dead-end sump, tank, or other device and transported or pumped to the nearest treatment facility for proper disposal.

Training: Personnel will be trained to know where cleaning activities will be performed.

Effectiveness and Cost: Discharging wash water to a sanitary sewer is a highly effective, variable-cost BMP.

Limitations: Some municipalities may require pretreatment and monitoring of wash water discharges to the sanitary sewer. This would greatly increase the cost of this practice. The treatment plant owner will be notified and approval obtained before discharge.